

Gas

Throughout Okinawa Prefecture there are two types of gas in use, city gas (which is a coal based gas called *toshi gasu*) and propane gas (called *LP gasu*). **Okinawa City currently uses propane gas.**

City gas and propane gas are completely different gas sources and require different appliances. If you change any part of your gas appliance, the new part must be compatible to that appliance for the correct gas source. Using an incompatible appliance results in imperfect combustion that can lead to fires or asphyxiation. It would be wise to find out from your real estate agent or landlord which type of gas your new home is equipped for before you move in. Improper use of the gas appliance is extremely dangerous.

To Begin Gas Service:

The name and phone number of your gas supplier should be posted on your water heater or main gas valve. Ask your landlord, real estate agent or neighbor for the name and number if you can not find it. Contact the gas company that is contracted for your complex and notify them of when you are moving in and ask them to provide you with the necessary services (opening the gas valve and/or inspection).

There are several gas companies in our City. See the list

Gas Companies in Okinawa City

| | Japanese Characters Name | Name | Telephone | Address | English |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 神里プロパン | Kamizato Propane | 098-937-1218 | Ageda 1-8-35, Okinawa City | Non available |
| 2 | ハマデン | Hamaden | 098-938-4011 | Awase 2-3-2-3F, Okinawa City | AVAILABLE (Not all days) |
| 3 | 株式会社りゅうせきエ ネプロ中部支店 | Ryuseki Enepro Central Branch | 0120-33-4005 | Awase 3-47-15-1F, Okinawa City | Non available |
| 4 | 田岸プロパン | Tagishi Propane | 098-937-5863 | Chuo 1-29-15, Okinawa City | Non available |
| 5 | 沖縄電化社 | Okinawa Denka Sha | 098-937-6584 | Misato 5-23-14-1F, Okinawa City | Non available |
| 6 | 株式会社未来相互ガ ス | Mirai Sogo Gas | 098-934-6077 | Miyazato 516-1-1F, Okinawa City | Non available |
| 7 | 有限会社吉田電気ガ ス (代) | Yoshida Denki Gas | 098-933-2060 | Moromizato 3-2-21, Okinawa City | Non available |
| 8 | 株式会社マルキガス 中部 | Marui Gas Chubu | 098-933-4441 | Moromizato 3-6-1-1F, Okinawa City | Non available |
| 9 | 有限会社三光ガス | Sanko Gas | 098-937-1290 | NakasoneCho 33-16, Okinawa City | Non available |

The Water Heater

The newest homes/apartments have automatic hot water. However most homes/apartments have a panel on the wall with a one-touch switch for turning the water heater on and off. Older homes have larger panels either inside or outside the home that must be manually turned on, each time you want hot water flowing in your home.

Empty Cylinder: Propane gas comes in a replaceable gas cylinder. Payment is based on the amount of gas used. When the gas cylinder is empty it is necessary to get one that is full.

Payment of Gas Bills:

Every month a representative will deliver a Bill for Gas (*kenshin seikyusho* 検針請求書), which includes the monthly usage and monthly expense. Payment can be made in two ways:

Payment method 1) Automatic payment (*jido koza furikae* 自動口座振替). Monthly direct payment from your bank or post office savings account. This can be set up by going to your bank, post office, or the office of your gas company. You will need your bankbook, your *inkan* (personal seal which matches your bankbook), a copy of your most recent Bill for Gas. Please note that there is a waiting period after applying for automatic payment during which you must pay your bill in person. (see payment method 2). Each month your Usage Bill is the only documentation you will receive, and this can be confirmed on your bankbook when the payment has been posted.

Payment method 2) Make monthly payments in person. Payments can be made:

1. Directly to the collector who visits your home
2. At the payment window of your gas company (please bring your Bill for Gas)
3. Local bank or Post Office
4. Convenient Stores: Family Mart, Hot Spar, and Lawsons (You must let the company know that you will be paying cash at the convenience store every month, and they will send you a bill (*seikyusho* 請求書) in the mail. You must take this to the convenience store to make the payment, as part of it will be sent in as a remittance and the other part is for your records.

To Cancel Gas Service:

Contact the gas company when you will be moving. Let them know the date to end service. A representative will come and turn off your service and final payment of the gas bill will be reconciled at that time.